MAJOR GEN. BANKS' ACHIEVEMENTS.

CONTINUED FROM THIRD PAGE.

after the artillery of Captain Mack's Eighteenth New York was heard thundering along the road. At the bend he was seen galloping at full speed, and the next moment the guns were in position.

So rapid and splendid was the whole movement performed, that the enemy had not time to open their batteries before the staunch twenty pounder Parrotts of Captain Mack were throwing shell into them, when the whole of the rebel guns were limbered up and hurried away without firing. Under the circumstances General Paine was compelled to commence the fire with Mack's battery before the Fourth Wisconsin was called in, and most of the shelling was over their heads. Captain Mack now turned his artillery upon the Diana and the guns of the enemy ahead and on each side of the Teche. The firing was kept up for two hours without cessation. The whole were in easy range of his guns, the Diana and batteries on this side of the river not being more than eight hundred yards distant, while that on the opposite side to the left was about one thousand three hundred.

Four hundred rounds were fired, two caissons emptied, the Diana and batteries right and left silenced repeatedly, the gunboat finally steaming up the Teche, and never firing a shot this side of the breastworks afterward. Generals Banks, Emory, Paine and their staffs rode up and complimented Captain Mack and his command. This is the first time that this battery has been engaged, and the men under fire. The battery was raised in the city of Rochester, N. Y., last September. Your country will thank you, Captain Mack, for you and your command acted gloriously.

OUR PARROTTS TALK LONGER THAN THE ENEMY'S.

While this battery was answering the enemy from every quarter, Colonel McMillan, of the Twenty-first regiment Indiana artillery, ordered Captain McLaflin, of Company G, to take a section of thirty pound rifled Parrotts, place them in position on the bank, in easy range of the Diana, and open on her.

This was promptly done; twenty shots were fired, six of which are said to have struck her. The flag was shot away.

The first shell that was fired is reported to have passed through her iron plating and wheelhouses, killing both the engineers and three other persons. Six were afterwards killed by two other shells.

A large number were scalded and wounded on board the Diana, as one of the shells passed through a portion of her steam works. In half an hour after the first shot was fired from these guns she steamed up stream and disappeared. This was about ten minutes past three A. M. She never appeared to fight Mack's and McLaflin's guns afterwards.

GOOD NEWS FROM GROVER—MONDAY'S LINE OF BATTLE.

Before proceeding further with what occurred in General Paine's brigade I will state that at an early hour in the morning (Monday, April 13,) news reached General Banks that General Grover was in the rear of the enemy advancing on Franklin.

The lines of battle were advanced the same as on the day previous, except that the remainder of Colonel Good ing's brigade crossed the Teche and rejoined those who went over the day previous. The First Maine artillery, Lieutenant Healy commanding, accompanied it for the purpose of silencing the battery which was throwing grape and canister into General Paine's brigade.

Colonel Gooding's command crossed to the other side of the Teche on a bridge partly destroyed by the rebels (before mentioned as used for obstructing the bayou) and afterwards repaired by us.

In the line of battle on the west bank Duryea's battery, of General Emory's division, took the place which Mack's battery occupied the day previous.

GENERAL PAINE'S ENGAGEMENT CONTINUED—THE ENEMY BECOMING DESPERATE.

As the Diana was preparing to start up stream to get out of range of our guns, a severe skirmish took place in the front of General Paine's brigade between Company B, Fourth Wisconsin, Captain Carter, and Company B, of the Twenty-eighth Louisiana. The latter were driven off.

While this affair was going on, information was brought to General Paine that a regiment of the enemy's infantry had been landed in the woods and were advancing towards our right wing for the purpose of flanking it.

This circumstance, and the discovery that another force was passing down to the bank of the bayou out of the woods, led him to suppose that the enemy were massing troops in that direction, with the intention of suddenly descending upon Captain Mack's battery, for the purpose of capturing it.

To guard against this move, the right wing (Eighth New Hampshire) was ordered in position on the bank of the bayou, slightly in advance of the right of the battery, with orders to protect it to the last, and charge upon any troops which might advance for that purpose.

THE ENEMY FALL BACK—THEIR ARTILLERY SILENCED—THE POSITION OURS.

This movement no doubt checked the enemy, who fell back with their main body, leaving, however, a large force of skirmishers, who opened a destructive fire. At thirty five minutes past eleven o'clock these were also partially driven back and their fire slackened. Ours in creasing, they, too, finally retreated behind the shelter of their earthworks. The fire on both sides was fierce and constant.

About this time every gun of the enemy's batteries was silenced also, and our firing ceased, leaving us in undisputed possession of the woods and sugar house. All acted splendidly. The ground so hotly contested, was held during the whole time, the enemy being driven off at every point by the infantry; while the fire of the Diana, the thirty-two-pounder, and the guns on each side of the river, before and behind their breastworks, were silenced by Mack's, McLaflin's and Healy's artillery. Observing this General Paine rode up to Captain Mack, thanked him and his command, when the brigade gave three cheers for the battery and its gallant chief. This was followed by three more for General Paine, the members of the artillery company joining with spirit. Several shells had struck some buildings in the rear and to the right of the enemy's works on this side of the Teche, setting them on fire. The artillery firing, infantry fighting, skirmishing and the burning buildings presented one of the grandest spectacles I ever witnessed.

THE ARTILLERY FIGHT.

During the whole of this sharp engagement our forces were in line of battle a little further in the rear, skirmishing ahead, the main body gradually approaching nearer the enemy's breastworks, and the artillery replying to the rapid fire of their batteries.

The artillery about ten o'clock opened with renewed vigor along the whole line.

In addition to the batteries I have already mentioned were Captains Caruth's and Bainbridge's, of Weitzel's brigade. They fired from their positions on the left until all their ammunition was expended, when they retired. Several of the enemy's guns were either silenced entirely by these batteries or compelled to change their positions.

Between twelve and one o'clock Captain Duryea's battery of twelve-pound Napoleons was ordered up in front, and was soon firing upon all the batteries of the enemy on this side of the Teche. Lieutenant Morris, with one section of the battery, was ordered to proceed forward to within one hundred and fifty yards of their breastworks. They did so, and engaged the enemy from that time to five P. M., doing considerable execution, firing in all two hundred and fifty-six rounds, when he ceased for want of ammunition. A shell from the enemy about one o'clock killed one of the drivers, his horse, and struck a caisson. The latter was soon repaired.

One shot from Capt. Duryea's command struck and dismounted a large brass field piece of the enemy posted near the woods on the left. It was a gun of Valverde's battery. From the effects of this shot Capt. Valverde and four horses are reported to have been instantly killed, and four men wounded.

The two thirty-pound Parrott's which engaged the Diana were now turned on the land batteries, distant about a mile and a quarter, compelling the rebel artillerists to change their guns from one part of their works to another, as could be seen from the smoke of their pieces.

A FIERCE ARTILLERY FIGHT.

The constant roar of artillery was now literally deafening (half-past three P. M). All day there had been firing, with more or less vigor, at different parts of the field; but now all the artillery appeared to be engaged, battery replying to battery and gun answering gun.

It is known that the enemy had three or four batteries behind their breastworks on the west side of the Teche—among them Valverde's and Semmes', as well as the guns of the Diana (now silenced) and the large gun on the redoubt near the road.

Our battery had already thrown grape and cannister from the other side of the Teche, and it was believed that besides this others were there in reserve.

DESCRIPTION OF THE FIELD AT THE TIME.

I thought that the firing of the previous day's engagement was terrific; but it was nothing in comparison with this, which was the heaviest I ever heard, and continued for three or four hours in a perfect roll. The whistling of each shot and shell, as it cut through the air, was distinctly heard above the din. Soon a haze filled the atmosphere, caused by the large quantities of smoke rising from the discharged guns and bursting shells, and the number of the latter exploding in the air resembled fire flies at night, the whole horizon in front appearing to shoot out a sudden jet of yellow fire, which, disappearing, was instantly followed by a circle of white fleecy smoke, which gradually became less distinct and finally vanished.

The enemy's breastworks, extending from the Teche to the woods on the west side, and to Grand Lake on the east, were evidently of great strength and in admirable position. On Sunday they were invisible to the naked eye, and at the distance of three quarters of a mile could scarcely be distinguished with a glass, owing to their similarity to the earth and plantation ridges around. Now our forces were much nearer and in plain sight. The dirt from the falling missiles was rising in showers along the enemy's ranks, while the same was the case in our front, every place where the shot and shell struck over the fields being plainly visible from the clouds of dark earth suddenly rising to a height of several feet in the air.

THE COOLNESS OF OUR GENERALS IN THE FIELD.

The coolest and apparently the least concerned of all the brave men on the field were the commanding generals, and none more so than General Banks himself. Certainly none were in greater danger from the enemy's guns. Surrounded by his staff, he rode from one portion of the field to another, and both days visited the other generals and inspected the lines himself. Though headquarters on the battle field might be said to be on the road and slightly to the left, opposite the trees and sugar house (which position was so hotly contested in the morning), they were compelled to be changed frequently, as the large gun on the redoubt and a battery over the river threw shot and shell rapidly in that neighborhood, in answer to Captain Hamnick's twenty pounder Parrotts, posted on the road a few yards to the right, and one of our thirty pounders, making it one of the warmest places on the field along our lines.

THE FIGHT CONTINUED.

Captain Cox, Company K, of this regiment, received orders about this time to post his two brass eighteen-pound rifles near the centre of the field, on the left of the Teche. They were placed in the rear of the light artillery, and opened on the guns to the right, near the river. Only a few rounds were fired, as it was found impossible to see the position of the enemy. Captain Cox was then ordered up to within four hundred yards of the batteries, from which position he fired one hundred rounds, driving the enemy repeatedly from their guns, upsetting a caisson, and killing several horses. Three of his men were severely wounded.

CAPTAIN MACK'S BATTERY AGAIN ENGAGED.

About one o'clock in the afternoon, Captain Mack having filled his caisson, received orders to advance his guns to the point, and open fire on the thirty two pounder, the battery to the right, on the other side of the Teche, and Cameron's battery of light twelve-pounders on the left, on this side.

The guns were soon in position in the rear of Captain Bradbury's, and kept up a constant fire upon the enemy's position for three hours and a half. The distance from the battery to the large gun was about six hundred yards, and from the batteries on each side of the river about fifteen hundred. Captain Mack was under a severe cross fire during the whole of the time. Shell struck and burst all around his pieces. A case of grape from the thirty-two pounder struck directly under Captain Mack's horse and exploded; but the powder was of such a poor quality that it failed to throw the grape with any force, only one or two of the balls from the rings which enclosed them being forced out.

At three o'clock Captain Hamnick, of Company E, Twenty first Indiana, with a section of twenty pounder rifled Parrotts, took position near the sugar house, on the right of the road, and opened on the large gun on this side and on the enemy on the other side of the Teche, where a sharp engagement was going on between Colonel Gooding's brigade, Healy's battery and the rebels.

The enemy from the other side of the bayou promptly answered Hamnick's section, and fired with such rapidity as to compel him to change his position frequently during the action.

The enemy's batteries were behind high breastworks, so that it was impossible to know the effect of his fire; but Captain Hamnick had the satisfaction of observing that they were driven from their guns again and again, as the firing would cease at times for several minutes.

MOVEMENTS OF THE INFANTRY DURING THIS TIME.

On both sides of the Teche the infantry had been engaged nearly the whole of the day.

On the left, as we have seen, the artillery fight commenced about noon.

After ascertaining the number and force of the enemy's guns, General Banks gave orders that the advance should learn, if possible, their force of infantry; and our artillery, infantry and skirmishers were advanced four hundred yards at one o'clock for that purpose, but without accomplishing the object.

The brigades of Generals Weitzel and Paine formed the two first lines of battle, the latter the two right and the former the two left lines, the advance or front line being the Fourth Wisconsin and Eighth New Hampshire, of General Paine's brigade, right, and the One Hundred and Thirty-third and One Hundred and Seventy third New York, of General Weitzel's brigade, left. Colonel Ingraham's brigade, of General Emory's division, was held in reserve.

ADVANCING ON THE ENEMY'S WORKS.

The order was now given to advance on the enemy's works. A large body of skirmishers were thrown out along the whole line in face of and not more than fifty yards from the enemy's sharpshooters, which covered the entire front; and a terrible fire from these parties alone was at once opened and kept up for some time, the enemy bravely resisting the advance of the skirmishers, but finally compelled to fall back.

The distance of the first line of battle from the earthworks was about five hundred and twenty yards. (Time, forty-five minutes after two P. M.)

At the first the fire of the sharpshooters was very accurate, and several of our gallant fellows were shot down before they had proceeded twenty yards. One of the rebels was hidden behind a knoll. He would project his bayonet, with his cap at the end, slightly from one side, and, watching his opportunity, would fire on the other side of the knoll. He continued this ruse for some time, and must have killed or wounded no less than six or seven of our men.

General Weitzel now posted the Seventy-fifth, supported by the One Hundred and Fourteenth New York, on the left, in the woods. A constant fire from the enemy was kept up on them.

AN ADVANCE—CLOSE WORK.

About this time the enemy's batteries appeared to be silenced, when the whole army advanced towards them at quick time, skirmishers still in the advance.

Suddenly a terrific cross fire from every part of the enemy's works on both sides of the Teche opened upon them. The men were at once ordered to lie down, so that the shell might pass over them.

In a few moments the order to advance was again given, when the whole moved on in the face of a heavy fire. This was about three o'clock P. M., and the distance from the works was not more than three hundred and fifty yards.

The artillery was firing over our heads from every quarter, in answer to the line of fire from the guns of the enemy posted on their breastworks.

With the exception of the two regiments to the left in the woods, our whole force lay down in the plantation ditches and along between the ridges in the field, and the whistling shells from the enemy's batteries rushed harmlessly over their heads.

"LIE DOWN OR I'LL ARREST YOU."

And now occurred one of those acts of bravery which is called rashness.

While our skirmishers were falling back from an overpowering force of the enemy's sharpshooters, but only to rally and drive the enemy in their turn, several heads would be raised along our line for the purpose of witnessing the engagement, thereby drawing the fire from both the batteries and sharpshooters upon them. Some went so far as to stand upright. "Down, men, down," shouted General Emory, using but this order. Being unnoticed, the General stood up, and said, "Get down, men. Don't you see that you are drawing the fire of the enemy upon you?"

This order and appeal had no more effect than the former, curiosity being stronger than the fear of danger, when General Emory, for the third time, stood up, and, in a loud tone of passion, said, "Lie down, or I'll arrest you, and send you to the rear. Commanders of companies and regiments will see that this order is obeyed." The men instantly dropped their heads, and those standing glided out of sight. This order had the desired effect; and it is said that not a man raised himself after, until commanded to do so.

It was intended that the men should remain in this position until the order for the assault was given.

The enemy's sharpshooters from behind their rifle pits, two hundred and fifty yards from the main works, again drove back our skirmishers.

General Emory sent the division artillery to report to General Paine, who posted it on the right, near the centre and on the left of his line.

It was now a quarter past four o'clock. Everything appeared ready, and the order to advance in double quick and storm the works was momentarily expected.

THE FORCE OF THE ENEMY ASCERTAINED.

Our skirmishers along the line and the Seventy-fifth and One Hundred and Fourteenth New York regiments in the woods on the left, had already approached so near the enemy's intrenchments that he was compelled to expose his infantry force, open fire and drive them back.

This was all that was required, and, falling back, a report was made to the commanders, and the strength of both the enemy's artillery and infantry behind their earthworks was thus ascertained.

The enemy appeared to fully understand the meaning of the movement, for their guns fired rapidly along the whole line. It was well that our men were situated as they were, or they must have been cut to pieces and compelled to fall back. As it was, the loss was very small.

About this time (five o'clock) a regiment of infantry and cavalry emerged from their works on the left, and entering the woods, attempted to flank us, but were engaged by the Seventy-fifth and One Hundred and Fourteenth New York, when, after a sharp skirmish, the enemy retreated behind their fortifications with considerable loss.

POSTPONED.

General Paine now formed his brigade into two lines, with the intention of at once advancing and assaulting the enemy's works. It had moved but a short distance, however, when a staff officer from General Weitzel rode up at full speed, bringing a request that he would wait until an answer could be received from a communication sent to General Banks a few moments previous, in relation to the movement.

General Paine accordingly marched his brigade back into the ditches.

In a few moments the reply was received. It was decided to defer the assault until morning, as it was late in the day, and the Clifton (gunboat), which had arrived a short time previous, could co-operate in the attack.

Had the assault been made it would no doubt have succeeded, but at a very heavy loss of life.

The firing having now ceased on both sides (twenty minutes past six P. M.), the lines of battle were ordered to fall back and bivouack for the night. They were relieved by fresh troops, a strong picket line placed ahead, with reserves but a short distance in the rear, and the exhausted, but brave and gallant fellows, went back a short distance in the rear of the picket reserves and slept soundly on the battle field until morning, when the reveille was the signal for a hasty breakfast and rapid start after the enemy, who had evacuated his works in the night.

While our troops are resting on this side of the Teche, I will tell you of the brilliant affair of Colonel Gooding's brigade on the other side.

COL. GOODING'S BRIGADE—THE FIGHT ON THE OPPOSITE SIDE OF THE TECHE.

Early in the forenoon of Monday, Col. Gooding received an order from Gen. Emory to cross the Teche, rejoin the two regiments sent over the afternoon previous, and attack and silence the rebel battery which was throwing grape into Gen. Paine's command, at that time posted near the sugar house. The remaining sections of Lieut. Healy's First Maine battery accompanied the brigade.

The regiments composing Col. Gooding's command were the Thirty-first Massachusetts, One Hundred and Fifty-sixth New York, One Hundred and Seventy-fifth New York, Fifty-third Massachusetts, and the Thirty eighth Massachusetts. The latter crossed the pontoon bridge about eight o'clock under a severe fire from the battery. The First Maine battery followed.

The Thirty-first Massachusetts was deployed as skirmishers through an immense cane field, at the end of which, a mile and a half distant, the enemies breastworks extended for three-quarters of a mile, reaching from the shore of Grand Lake to the bank of the Teche.

POSITION OF THE ENEMY ON THE RIGHT BANK.

The advance of the Thirty-first was hotly contested by the enemy, and the Thirty eighth Massachusetts moved forward in three detachments as a support. The intention was to immediately attack the battery; but as soon as our advance was observed it ceased to fire on General Paine's brigade, and accordingly the attack was not made. Col. Gooding, however, decided upon finding the true position of the enemy outside his works, and also ascertain if the guns which had been throwing grape into General Paine's brigade was a light battery posted on the outside of the intrenchments, as was supposed by General Emory.

The Thirty-first Massachusetts was now advanced to within half a mile of the works; but no light battery was found there. The advance was very hotly contested; and, the ammunition of the Thirty-first being exhausted, they were relieved by the Thirty-eighth Massachusetts, Col. Bodman, who deployed as skirmishers. About two o'clock an order was received from General Banks to move on the enemy's intrenchments on the right bank, while at the same time an order was given to Generals Emory and Weitzel to advance on them on the left bank.

PREPARING TO ASSAULT THE ENEMY'S WORKS.

The Thirty-eighth Massachusetts deployed across the whole field, advancing to the position of the Thirty first. The Fifty-third Massachusetts was also deployed as skirmishers, acting as a support. The One Hundred and Seventy-fifth New York and Thirty-first Massachusetts were placed in the rear of the left and the right of the second line of skirmishers, as reserves, while at the same time the One Hundred and Fifty-sixth New York was ordered to turn the enemy's left flank. The battery, under command of Lieutenants Healy and Morton, was posted on parallel plantation roads leading to the enemy's works. One section was held in reserve, and in rear of the second line of skirmishers. These dispositions being made, the whole advanced on the enemy's works, driving them into the same.

The advance was very stubbornly resisted, the rebel sharpshooters engaging our skirmishers, while the artillery belched forth fire and smoke all along the extent of their fortifications, bravely answered, however, by our own, which was well served, and the guns of the enemy were twice silenced and frequently compelled to change their positions.

ADVANCING.

About three o'clock a further advance was made under a severe, direct and cross fire from their batteries, and it having been found by this time that the enemy were very strongly fortified with powerful guns, the Thirty eighth Massachusetts was ordered to advance steadily forward towards the earthworks, and when within the reach of musketry to lie down and await orders. The next moment another order arrived that they should advance, and, if they could reach the enemy's works, enter them.

As Colonel Redman rode along the line for the purpose of issuing his commands the enemy's sharpshooters fired upon him. He was the only mounted man in his regiment. The men advanced steadily and rapidly, so well that our troops on the other side of the Teche cheered them, and the rebels hastily entered their breastworks.

SEVERITY OF THE ENEMY'S FIRE—A FLANK MOVEMENT INTENDED.

The fire was very severe on the left of this regiment under command of Major Richardson, the men being more exposed to the enemy's fire than at any other point.

A shell exploded just in the middle of the left reserve, killing Captain Gault, Company A; private Gill, Company A; another of Company D, and severely wounding seven others of these companies. The front line at this time was distant from the enemy's works about 750 yards. The advance was now (3:45 P. M.) very slow, as the enemy was using every exertion from their works and outside on the right, left and centre to drive us back.

At this time Lieutenant Russel, of the Thirty-eighth Massachusetts, with his company, was in the woods to the right, when about five hundred of the enemy's infantry advanced from the works with the intention of flanking him. They opened a tremendous fire, checking our further progress, and the right would probably have been turned by this overpowering force, but for the thick underbrush of the woods and the swampy nature of the ground, thus rendering their movements very slow and difficult.

REINFORCED IN TIME.

Colonel Gooding at once ordered the One Hundred and Fifty-sixth New York, Lieutenant Colonel Sharp, to strengthen this position and drive the enemy back. Advancing through the woods on the enemy's left, Colonel Sharp reached their rear and flanked them, driving the rebels before him. They were the Eighteenth Louisiana infantry and three companies of the Seventh Texas cavalry, the latter dismounted. A section of artillery was also posted by the rebels on that end of the works for the purpose of assisting the force to flank us. Suddenly the enemy sent a powerful force to the assistance of the rebels, as it was found that they were being driven at every point. Colonel Sharp had now a much superior force to contend against. A sharp musketry fire, by volleys, was commenced and kept up for some time, when word reaching Colonel Gooding that Colonel Sharp's force was outnumbered by the enemy's, the Thirty-first Massachusetts was immediately sent to reinforce him.

A GALLANT FELLOW—"LET'S TRY IT AGAIN, BOYS."

As soon as they arrived a charge was made by Colonel Sharp upon a strong abatis to the right of the earthworks, in the woods, about two hundred yards distant, and hidden entirely from sight of the latter by the trees. The position was evidently a very strong one, for the enemy had dug a ditch and felled trees around it. The rebels in the abatis fought bravely, and our forces fell back about twenty feet, when Sergeant Charles W. Kennedy, of Company I, advancing to the front, waved his musket as an officer would his sword, and impulsively shouted, "Let's try it again, boys! We'll have it this time. Follow me!" And the sergeant came forward, the rest followed with a yell, when the ditch, obstructions and abatis were passed in a moment, and the in instant the abatis was taken and the enemy at the mercy of our soldiers. The latter, eighty-six in number, at once surrendered. One hundred stand of arms were taken.

THE ABATIS HELD.

The abatis was held by our men with little loss, as I have said that it was distant from their works and batteries about two hundred yards, with dense woods between.

Lieutenant Healy's guns were struck frequently by the shot and shell from the enemy's batteries. One was disabled, but was soon repaired. The rammer of Lieutenant Morton's section of the same battery was cut in two by a shell. A piece of the same shell wounded him slightly in the neck. A round shot, about three o'clock, passed very near Lieutenant Morton, cutting the head off an infantry man at his side.

The One Hundred and Fifty sixth New York, Colonel Sharp, and the Thirty-first Massachusetts, Colonel Hopkins, held the woods and abatis all night, fighting the enemy the whole time, and killing and wounding a large number, amongst the former, a field officer on a white horse, who rode among his men cheering and inspiring them onward.

About five o'clock P. M., the Thirty-eighth Massachusetts having expended all their ammunition, the Fifty-third Massachusetts, Colonel Kimball, was ordered by Colonel Gooding to advance his line of skirmishers and relieve the Thirty eighth.

The fight continued in that position until between seven and eight o'clock P. M., when the firing closed. All day there had been a constant roar of artillery and musketry, grape, ball and shell, on both sides of the river. Altogether, it was, perhaps, one of the warmest and liveliest fights ever known. As I have stated, the enemy were driven at every point.

THE ENEMY EVACUATES IN THE NIGHT.

At daylight in the morning Colonel Kimball, commanding the advance line of skirmishers, failing to discover any trace of the enemy in front, concluded to advance his line to the enemy's works, when he found them evacuated. At the same time Capt. W. Irving Allen, of the Thirty-first Massachusetts, having his company deployed as skirmishers in the woods on the left, and seeing the forward movement of Colonel Kimball's line of skirmishers, ordered his men to advance also, entering the enemy's works on the left at the same time. While this movement was taking place Colonel Gooding received an order from General Emory to ascertain, if possible, by an advance movement, whether the enemy had evacuated his works, when the welcome news was received that the flag of the Fifty-third Massachusetts already waved over them.

About one o'clock the same morning (Tuesday, April 14,) General Paine, who, with his command, it will be remembered, was a short distance in the rear of the reserves, on the opposite side of the Teche, was awakened by the distant rumbling of artillery. Soon after an officer from the picket guard came to him and reported that he and his command had heard the noise since 11 o'clock the night previous, and that the enemy must either be evacuating, or was being reinforced. The former was thought to be the most probable by both of the officers, and Gen. Paine at once sent word of what had occured to Gen. Emory.

THE EIGHTH NEW HAMPSHIRE HAANTS THEIR FLAG ON THE DESERTED BREASTWORKS.

At two o'clock A. M., an order from Gen. Emory arrived with instructions to send a company of skirmishers to ascertain whether the enemy's pickets were there, draw their fire, and occupy the enemy's works at once, as soon as it was known that they had evacuated them.

Captain Allaire, of the One Hundred and Thirty-third New York, with his company, were at once detatched by Gen. Paine for this purpose, with orders that he should send back as early as possible an account of his operations, and whether or not the enemy were met on this side of the works.

In the meantime, the brigade formed in line of battle, and the left wing (Eighth New Hampshire) was deployed over his entire front, with orders to skirmish, if possible, into the enemy's breastworks.

The men advanced as ordered, the brigade following closely. No gun was fired and no obstruction made to their onward progress, and in a short time the men of the Eighth New Hampshire were seen climbing up the breastworks. While three rousing cheers were given from along the line of intrenchments on each side of the river, the flag of the Eighth New Hampshire was planted on them.

The whole brigade then marched in line of battle, and followed them over the works. Information was now sent to Generals Banks and Emory that the enemy had evacuated, and in a short time a large force of cavalry, infantry and artillery, started in pursuit.

The cavalry of the rebels had formed in line of battle about half a mile from the earthworks; but as soon as they saw our forces mount them, they hurriedly left.

WHAT THE DIVISION OF GENERAL GROVER WAS DOING AT THE TIME.

Before following the enemy, it is proper to state what occurred in their rear, and what was the result of General Grover's expedition. At eight o'clock on Saturday morning, the 11th inst., General Grover's division left Brashear City on the gunboats Clifton, Estrella, Arizona and Calhoun, and the transports Laurel Hill, Quinnebog and St. Marys. Two small tugboats had in tow rafts loaded with artillery, munitions of war, &c. The intention was to have left the night previous, but the dense fog detained them until the time mentioned above.

SPIRIT OF THE TROOPS AFLOAT AND ASHORE.

The whole proceeded up the Atchafalaya river in line, the Clifton taking the lead. As the loaded vessels steamed up the river, one after another passing our army marching along the river road, hearty cheers were given, hands and handkerchiefs waved, and the joy which shone on the faces of all could not have been exceeded if the parties had met after a long and dangerous campaign, instead of the few hours which passed since they were together. Those cheers, I thought, boded no good to the enemy, and I was satisfied when I saw the spirit of the men that they were advancing to victory, and as bold and brave a front would be shown to the enemy as could be desired. And so it proved, for I question whether any man fought better or acted more the soldier throughout than the gallant fellows composing the Nineteenth Army corps did in this rapid and victorious campaign.

OBJECT OF THE EXPEDITION—OBSTACLES.

The intention of General Grover's expedition was to get into the enemy's rear, and, if possible, cut off their line of retreat in case they should be forced to evacuate in front, and in the event of their not evacuating to attack them in the rear, and thus, under two fires, compel them to do so.

Unforseen difficulties in transportation, the grounding of one of the transports near the entrance to Grand Lake, and a delay of upwards of twenty-four hours in laying off where a landing was desired, detained them a considerable time.

The expedition proceeded to Grand Lake, meeting no obstruction whatever.

Steaming up the lake a few miles the fleet anchored at a place opposite what is known as Mrs. Porter's shell road, about thirty miles from Brashear City, arriving there about eight o'clock the same evening.

A reconnoissance was now made on shore by the First Louisiana, Lieutenant Colonel Fisk, along the shell road leading to the Teche, from the lake to the rear of where the enemy was supposed to be. After a careful examination it was found that the road was impassable.

Captain Rawley, Aid to General Banks, and chief signal officer in the department, about three o'clock the same afternoon took the steamer Sykes, proceeded up the Atchafalaya into the lake, and opened communication with General Grover. A company of men and one piece of artillery accompanied him.

LANDING OF THE TROOPS—IN LINE OF BATTLE.

The flotilla now moved up to what is known as Mc Williams' road, five miles above. This movement was quietly made in the night. The landing here being found good, and the road passable, the troops commenced disembarking on Sunday morning at daylight. The First Louisiana and the brigade of Col. Birge landed at the same time. The former immediately formed in line of battle, and Lieut. Col. Fiske advanced with two companies and deployed as skirmishers towards the woods, supported by Col. Holcomb with the balance of the regiment.

THE ENEMY ATTACK US AND RETREAT.

Suddenly, after proceeding a short distance, artillery opened upon our forces from the woods beyond the road, instantly followed by a sharp discharge of musketry.

Colonel Fiske, with his command, was ordered to advance into the woods, while Colonel Holcomb moved rapidly forward with his regiment to take the enemy' guns, or drive them back and advance through the woods to the opposite edge, distant about three-quarters of a mile.

As our men moved rapidly forward the enemy limbered up his guns and retreated. Volleys of musketry were, however, kept up on Colonel Holcomb's command, which were briskly returned, the latter advancing at the same time.

At this time Colonel Fiske fell, wounded through the leg, and the men moved forward with more spirit, as if determined to dearly avenge his fall, when the enemy retreated in haste, leaving two prisoners and two horses in our hands.

THE WOODS HELD WHILE THE REMAINDER OF THE DIVISION DISEMBARKS.

Our force now advanced to the edge of the wood, which it held, and the Twelfth Connecticut, One Hundred and Fifty-ninth and Sixth New York shortly after arrived as a support. Here General Dwight was ordered to halt and await the disembarking of the remainder of the division, while steamers in the meantime were sent to the assistance of the Arizona, which had grounded a few miles above with two regiments on board. The troops were transferred to the other vessels as rapidly as possible, and the Arizona got afloat, when the whole returned to the main body. This caused a detention of four hours. General Dwight was now reinforced by the remainder of his brigade and Captain Closson's battery of artillery. The enemy, in considerable numbers, was moving about on the plain ahead, and across the bridges of the Teche. This force consisted of four guns, 300 cavalry and a few infantry.

As soon as our cavalry and artillery arrived at the front, the former was sent to occupy and hold the junction of the Lake road, together with the road that runs parallel with the Teche.

THE ENEMY ON THE ALERT.

The rebels moved forward upon this body with their cavalry and artillery, compelling it to fall back.

A section of Closson's battery, with Colonel Cassidy's Sixth New York regiment, was now sent forward with a support, for the purpose of effecting the same object, when the enemy, seeing this body advance, retreated across the Teche, at McWilliams' plantation, burning the bridge behind then, and proceeding to the bridge at Madame Porter's plantation, attempted to fire it also; but our artillery and infantry, having by this time got possession of the junction of the roads, prevented its destruction, extinguished the fire and compelled the negroes on the plantation to repair the damage already done.

The enemy now started for a bridge about five hundred yards lower down the Teche, with the intention of destroying it; but our artillery opening upon them and the cavalry harrassing them they retreated without accomplishing their purpose. Shortly after noon we had full possession of the bridge at Madame Porter's, which was now in good repair.

About this time an order to "halt" was given, when General Dwight received instructions from General Grover to remain on the opposite side of the Teche, and keep possession of the bridges. The brigade remained in this position until five o'clock P. M., the remainder of the force crossing to the other side.

When all were over, General Dwight was ordered to burn the lower bridge, at which his command was, and with his brigade cross the one which our forces had already passed over.

This was accomplished, and the troops bivouacked for the night.

Captain Rawley has communicated with General Grover, and returned to headquarters where he arrives at ten o'clock in the evening. It was supposed that both sides of the Atchafalaya were lined with rebel troops, which was the reason of artillery and infantry accompanying the Sykes. No resistance, however, was met, but a few of the enemy were seen and they retreated without firing.

THE DIVISION ADVANCES—THE ENEMY IN POSITION.

On Monday morning, April 13, shortly after daylight, the division again advanced, Colonel Birge's brigade in front, followed by the brigades of General Dwight and Colonel Kimball. Lieutenant Rogers' battery was in the advance, with Captains Closson's and Nimms' batteries in reserve.

About seven o'clock A. M. the advance reached the edge of a dense line of woods, near what is known as Irish Bend (a sharp bend of the Teche), about eleven miles distant from the rebel earthworks, where General Banks was engaging the enemy.

Here our force was met by a strong one of the rebels, in position, from the bank of the Teche, across the front and right flank of General Grover's division.

The enemy was strongly posted at this point, their right flank supported by artillery, and their left extending round into another wood, in such a manner as to completely encircle any force which should simply attack their position in the wood first spoken of.

THE BATTLE OF IRISH BEND—SKIRMISHING.

Colonel Birge, of the Third brigade, of General Grover's division, at this time in command of the advance, and supported by two sections of Rogers' battery, now skirmished with the rebels in front for about an hour, our skirmishers and their supports engaging the infantry and dismounted cavalry of the enemy. Colonel Birge then ordered the Twenty-fifth Connecticut and One Hundred and Fifty-ninth New York in front of the first skirt of woods.

He had no sooner done this than the enemy commenced a flank attack, endeavoring to take the section of Rogers' battery which was on the right.

THE FIGHT—THE ENEMY PRESS US HARD—REINFORCEMENTS.

These two regiments, assailed by a fire on their front and right from an enemy very perfectly concealed, replied ineffectually to the fire, became shaken, and finally commenced to fall back, when General Grover rode up to the front and rallied them, at the same time ordering General Dwight to hasten up with his brigade.

The section of Rogers' battery was compelled to limber up and go to the rear, the fire of the enemy being so lively as to pick off nine cannoneers at their guns.

THE TABLES TURNED—GEN. DWIGHT'S BRIGADE.

At this time General Dwight moved on to the field with his brigade, and placed the Sixth New York on his right, in such a manner as to outflank the enemy's left, in a similar way that the enemy outflanked our right.

The Ninety-first New York was ordered in front to advance against the woods, with the First Louisiana supporting the Sixth New York, and the Twenty-second Maine and One Hundred and Thirty-first New York in support of the Ninety-first New York.

The order to advance was given, and, like veterans, they moved forward across the field, through the woods, and over another field, the enemy slowly but surely falling back before them, sweeping on, taking from him all his positions, and finally compelling him to so hasty a retreat that he left over one hundred prisoners in our hands. Then the position which Col. Birge's brigade failed to take, with a loss of something over three hundred men, was taken by General Dwight, with a loss of only seven killed and twenty-one wounded.

General Dwight was now ordered to halt, take a favorable position and hold it.

This was done, the enemy continuing to manoeuvre in front of General Dwight's and Colonel Birge's commands for two or three hours.

PREPARING TO ATTACK THE ENEMY IN FORCE—HE EVACUATES.

The Diana did but very little harm during the whole of this time.

Our troops in the mean time had been ordered by General Grover to rest in their places until further orders, which they did until about three P. M., when an order was given to feel the enemy on the front and flank, with a view to our attacking their position in force.

Before any considerable advance further was made the enemy evacuated, retreating to the woods and canes, having previously set fire to the gunboat Diana and transports Gossamer, Newsboy and Era No. 2.

The retreat was accomplished in such a manner as to prevent effectual pursuit.

INTENTIONS OF THE ENEMY—THEIR KILLED, WOUNDED AND PRISONERS.

The rebel prisoners represent that they had upwards of five thousand men engaged in this affair, and that they came up with the intention of driving General Grover's division across the Bayou Teche before General Banks' force could arrive: but they were signally repulsed, with a loss of from three to four hundred.

On the field of battle one hundred and five prisoners were taken and thirty wounded.

Among the killed is General Riley, and among the wounded Colonel Gray.

The prisoners also report that General Dick Taylor advanced in force on the flank, and was in command of the whole. "Sibley was there," they say, "but he was not in the fight, and never is."

About one hundred and fifty prisoners in all were captured by General Grover's command.

Immediately on the retreat a reconnoissance was sent out, which met a courier from the advance of General Banks' army, when the news arrived for the first time that the enemy had evacuated his works at Beasland.

PURSUING THE ENEMY.

At an early hour on Tuesday morning, April 14, our cavalry and artillery, followed by Gen. Weitzel's brigade, with Col. Ingraham's, of Emory's division, as a support, started in pursuit of the enemy. Two regiments of Col. Ingraham's brigade were detached and sent on the opposite side of the Teche, keeping in a line with the others, while the remainder of Gen. Emory's division brought up the rear of the main body on the west bank. Between one and two hundred prisoners a day have been captured.

STRENGTH AND APPEARANCE OF THE ENEMY'S EARTHWORKS.

A better position for throwing up fortifications and earthworks and resisting successfully an advancing army, was perhaps never seen.

Extending from Grand Lake on our right to the Teche, with obstructions across that stream, and a continuation of the earthworks on the left, to the impassable woods and swampy ground, the whole nearly two miles in length, was alone of sufficient strength for a small force to keep an army at bay for some time; but when we add that all along the works ran a deep natural ditch or bayou, and that the right and left of each line on both sides of the ditch could not be flanked, it will be seen what a formidable barrier was before our army in its front.

The earthworks were about three feet and a half high and four through, piles being driven on the enemy side, for the purpose of strengthening them. They followed the course of the ditch, which had many and sharp turns., in some places, where the works were higher than the